

## THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tape holding case (443) housing a supply (32) of image receiving tape (24) comprising: means to bend the surface of the tape approximately 90°, the means being provided upstream of the printing position of the tape.

2. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 1, wherein the means for bending the tape (24) comprises an angled surface (410).

3. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 2, wherein the angled surface is fixed.

4. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 1 further comprising: means to bend the direction of the tape approximately 90°, the means being provided upstream of the means to bend the surface of the tape.

5. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 4, wherein the means to bend the direction of the tape is provided adjacent the means to bend the surface of the tape.

6. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 4, wherein the means to bend the direction of the tape comprises a pin.

7. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 1 further comprising a tape spool configured to supply the tape, and a cutting location in which the tape is to be cut.

8. A tape holding case (443) housing a supply (32) of image receiving tape (24), the tape holding case comprising a casing having means thereon for attaching the tape holding case (443) to an identically shaped tape holding case.

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9. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 8, wherein the means enables more than two identically shaped tape holding cases to be attached.

10. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 8, wherein the means for attaching comprises a recess (404) on a first wall (473) of the casing of the tape holding case (443) and a corresponding upstanding portion (403) on a second wall (472) of the casing of said tape holding case (443), wherein the first wall (473) and the second wall (472) are on opposite sides of the casing of said tape holding case (443).

11. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 8, wherein the recess (404) and the upstanding portion (403) have a generally rectangular cross section.

12. A tape printer (2) in combination with a tape holding case according to claim 8, wherein the tape printer (2) has a zone for receiving the tape holding case (2), wherein the zone comprises elements interacting with the means of the tape holding case (2) for attaching it to a second tape holding case.

13. A tape holding case (443) housing a supply (32) of image receiving tape (24) comprising:  
 a tape spool configured to supply the tape;  
 a cutting location in which the tape is to be cut; and  
 means to bend the tape approximately 90° only once as the tape moves from the spool to the cutting location.

14. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 43, wherein an angled surface (410) is provided for bending the tape (24).

15. A tape holding case (443) according to claim 43, wherein the angled surface (410) is fixed.